

ADP

DATE: 14 February 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Cartography Division, OBI

SUBJECT : Report of The World Data Bank Committee

25X1A9a 1. The Committee met on 11 February 1966. In addition to the ap-  
25X1A9a pointed members, [REDACTED] of this Division, [REDACTED] of ORD, and [REDACTED] all from OCS also attended. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 2. The previous work of the Committee was reviewed and a brief  
summary of this effort is attached. [REDACTED] reported on the sub-  
sequent feasibility study undertaken by his branch. Current develop-  
ments in available hardware were discussed. [REDACTED] briefly spoke 25X1A9a  
on ORD interest in graphical displays. The acquisition of combined  
light pen--cathode ray tube--camera gear will permit experimentation  
in rapid map design.

3. The selection of a base suitable for digitizing was considered  
next. Criteria for such a base should include an easily convertible  
projection, availability (Can stable-base positives be readily obtained?),  
and readability. On this basis, the Mercator map of the world published  
by the U.S. Navy Oceanographic Office was selected for non-polar coverage.  
No decision was made on polar maps. Before digitizing, all international  
boundaries will be checked by the responsible branches and modified if  
necessary. All coastlines and international boundaries and the drainage  
system of one country will be digitized. Concurrently, a tape of world  
capitals and major cities will be prepared from the gazetteer. It is  
estimated that about 50,000 coordinate points will be needed for the pro-  
totype World Data Bank. A vu-graph of the Arabian peninsula was shown  
to illustrate 220 Dahlgren points vs. the 620 needed to depict the area  
at 1:11,000,000, exclusive of boundaries and drainage. The 50,000 figure  
was arrived at by allowing for the gross detail at higher latitudes in  
this projection as well as boundaries and some drainage.

25X1A9a [REDACTED]

Attachment

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